GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:203
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2014
MAINTENANCE OF MUSEUMS ARCHIVES
Yadav Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the policy laid down for the protection and maintenance of the museums/archives in the country;

(b) whether the Government provides any financial and technical assistance to museums/archives which are not under the Archaeological Survey of India and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any proposal from the States for financial assistance for the protection of manuscripts of historical and cultural importance and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the funds allocated to the States for the purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR CULTURE & TOURISM AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 203 FOR REPLY ON 08.12.2014

(a) It is the policy of the Government to protect and maintain museums and archives of national importance in the country. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is the largest Government Institution in charge of maintenance of monuments of national importance. There are 44 site museums under its purview. Besides, with the objective of protecting and maintaining museums and archives in the country, the Government of India supports, funds and promotes the following museums which are directly under the Ministry of Culture:-

1) Salarjung Museum, Telengana

2) Allahabad Museum, Allahabad

3) Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata

4) National Museum, New Delhi

5) National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi, Bengaluru and Mumbai

6) Indian Museum, Kolkata

7) Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal

8) Nehru Memorial Museum & Library, New Delhi

9) National Council of Science Museum, Kolkata

In addition, various schemes are also in place to support initiatives other than those of Government of India in the museum sector:-

1) Museum Grant Scheme

2) Scheme for Digitization of Museum Collection

3) Scheme for Capacity Building and Training of Museum Professionals

Similarly, the Government of India, with the objective of protecting and maintaining archives of national importance, supports and funds the National Archives of India and the activities of other archives through the National Mission on Manuscripts (NMM) and National

Mission on Libraries (NML). The Government of India also funds, supports and gives grants to libraries having archival material, like Nehru Memorial Museum & Library, Rampur Raza Library, Khuda Baksh Library, etc.

(b) The Government provides funds/grants to 9 government museums and National Archives of India through budget allocation. The details of funds allocated during last three years and the current year are given in Annexure-I. This apart, financial assistance in the forms of grant-in-aid is provided to State Governments, voluntary Institutions, Societies and Trusts for setting up of new museums and development of existing museums. Grant-in-aid released under the Museum Grant Scheme during the last three and the current year is detailed in Annexure-II. Further, National Archives of India (NAI) operates Scheme for Financial Assistance to States/Union Territories, Archival Repositories, Government Libraries and Museums under which Financial assistance is provided for their developmental activities as well as preservation and conservation of records, rare books, manuscripts, documents and records of history. Financial assistance provided by the NAI during the last three year and the current years is given in Annexure-II. Details of grants released to National Mission on Manuscripts, National Mission on Libraries and 6 government libraries having archival material during the last three year and the current year is given in Annexure-I (item no. 11-18)

So far as technical assistance is concerned, National Research Laboratory for Conservation of Cultural Property (NRLC), Lucknow, a subor- dinate office under the Ministry of Culture, provides necessary assistance regarding various aspects of protection and maintenance to museums/ archives.

(c) & (d) National Archives of India has been receiving proposals from the States/UTs for financial assistance for the protection of manuscripts of historical and cultural impor- tance and grants are provided for the same to States/UTs. The details of grants released by National Archives of India during last three years and the current year (State-wise) is given in Annexure-III.

This apart, National Mission for Manuscripts has also provided funds to States for documen- tation and preservation of manuscripts. The details of funds provided by National Mission for Manuscripts during last three years and the current year, state- wise, is given in Annexure-IV.